[17th December 1947

regard to robberies and thefts, the Police refused to accept them as they said the Vyasarpadi station alone had jurisdiction and not Sembiam Police station."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I will ask the Commissioner of Police whether the facts as stated are correct."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know why Government could not get the full information in view of the fact that the question was given notice of some time back and as there is a specific complaint therein? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" The answer is as full as we can obtain from the officers concerned."

" 'Harleys' Bildaword " Prize Competition.

* 190 Q.—ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR : Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to notices regarding " Harley's Bildaword " Prize Competition; and

(*b*) whether the Government will be pleased to take early steps to put a stop to this new form of gambling?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" (*a*) The answer is in the negative.

" (*b*) The Government are enquiring into the matter."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I hand over a copy of the notice regarding ' Harley's Bildaword ' to the Hon. Minister? "

MR. PRESIDENT :—" You need not tell me; you can hand it over."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" Even outside the House you can hand it over."

(The copy of the notice was handed over to the Hon. Minister.)

Selling price of rice in a ration shop at Poonamallee.

* 191 Q.—SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that on 25th October 1947 the Taluk Supply Officer and Firka Supply Officer, Poonamallee, visited No. 6 ration shop in Poonamallee Cantonment and found that the rice was sold at Re. 0–8–0 per measure instead of at Re. 0–7–5;

(*b*) what action was taken in the matter;

(*c*) whether the Government are aware that similar black-marketing is going on in several ration shops; and

(*d*) whether the Government propose to take drastic action in this case?

17th December 1947]

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" (a) Yes.

" (b) A notice has been issued to the retailer to show cause why his authorization should not be cancelled and his security deposit forfeited to Government. Orders will be passed on receipt of his explanation.

" (c) The Collector of Chingleput has reported that complaints of blackmarketing have come to his notice in certain other ration shops in his district.

" (d) The Collector has already taken action in some cases. As the penalties levies in some of the cases reported are not deterrent, the Board of Revenue (Civil Supplies) has issued necessary instructions to the Collector."

SRI K. MANATHUNAINATHA DESIGAR :—" Are the Government confident that there will be no blackmarketing after the present increase in the price of rice?"

MR. PRESIDENT :—" It is too much for anybody to say."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" It is too early to say that."

Buildings purchased from the military authorities at Vizagapatam.

* 192 Q.—SRI P. VEERABHADRASWAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) what materials and buildings were purchased by the Government from the military authorities at Vizagapatam and at what cost;

(b) for what purposes the Government propose to use them; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to use the buildings for having an Aeronautical and Naval Engineering College?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (a) & (b) The Government propose to purchase the Military Dairy Farm at Vizagapatam for a price of Rs. 1 lakh for the opening of a Dairy Farm by the Veterinary department and four military sheds in King George Hospital compound, Vizagapatam, for a price of Rs. 1,560 for providing additional accommodation for the hostel students of the Andhra Medical College.

The Government are also negotiating with the Director-General of Disposals, New Delhi, on behalf of the Vizagapatam Municipality for the purchase of the Gosthani Water-supply Installations near Vizagapatam.

It is also proposed to purchase selected items of iron and steel materials available for disposal in the Engineering Park, Vizagapatam, to meet the urgent requirements of 'Grow More Food.' Irrigation and Electricity Schemes.

" (c) No, Sir."